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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/648,306 08/25/00 KOCH

C UPN-3904

HM12/0716
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EXAMINER

WRIGHT, S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1626

DATE MAILED:

07/16/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/648,306

Applicant(s)

KOCH ET AL.

Examiner

Sonya Wright

Art Unit

1626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 20-22 and 27-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 20-22 and 27-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 20-22 and 27-32 are pending in this application. Claims 23-26 have been canceled.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed May 17, 2001 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that the Office Action fails to provide evidence tending to establish that one skilled in the art would have been motivated to substitute the group $-\text{CH}_2-\text{CX}_2-\text{CHX}_2$, wherein X is hydrogen or a halogen, for $-\text{CHX}-\text{CX}_2-\text{CF}_3$. However, in column 6, lines 21-13, Koch et al. teach that "the R_2 substituent is an alkyl group containing 1 to 6 carbons, and preferably having up to about 6 halogen atoms". The teachings of Koch et al. encompass the R_2 substituent, $-\text{CH}_2-\text{CX}_2-\text{CHX}_2$, wherein X is hydrogen or a halogen. Therefore, the obvious double patenting rejection is maintained.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 20-22 and 27-32 are provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over US Patent 5,540,908, which has a common inventor with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the application, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e).

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 20-22 and 27-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 5,540,908, Koch et al..

Determination of the scope and content of the prior art (MPEP §2141.01)

Applicants claim a method for detecting tissue hypoxia in a mammal, and Koch et al. teach a method for detecting tissue hypoxia in a mammal. Koch et al. teach instant claims 20,-22 and 27-32 in column 1, lines 24-26, and column 6, lines 10-26. (Also see column 7, lines 20-29, for instant claims 20 and 21). Koch et al. teach the instant claims, when, in the instant claims, R₁ and R₂ are as defined.

Ascertainment of the difference between the prior art and the claims (MPEP §2141.02)

The difference between the prior art and the instant claims is that the prior art teaches a genus that encompasses Applicants' claims.

Finding of prima facie obviousness---rational and motivation (MPEP §2142-2143)

One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to use the teachings of Koch et al. to use the instant compounds in detecting tissue hypoxia in the expectation that all compounds under the genus would have similar methods of use. Koch et al. gives guidance to prepare the instant compounds in line 6, columns 22 and 23, where the preferred number of halogen atoms is about 6 and the preferred halogen atom is fluorine.

The examiner needs copies of the references for the information disclosure statement filed in Paper Number 5, on May 10, 2001, in order for the PTO-1449 to be signed by the examiner and returned to applicants.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sonya Wright, whose telephone number is (703) 308-

4539. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Joseph K. McKane, can be reached at (703) 308-4537. The Unofficial fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-7921. The Official fax phone numbers for this Group are (703) 308-4556 or 305-3592.

When filing a FAX in Technology Center 1600, please indicate in the Header (upper right) "Official" for papers that are to be entered into the file, and "Unofficial" for draft documents and other communications with the PTO that are not for entry into the file of the application. This will expedite processing of your papers.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [joseph.mckane@uspto.gov]. All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees will not communicate with applicant via Internet e-mail where sensitive data will be exchanged or where there exists a possibility that sensitive data could be identified unless there is of record an express waiver of the confidentiality requirements under 35 U.S.C. 122 by the applicant. See the Interim Internet Usage Policy published by the Patent and Trademark Office Official Gazette on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist, whose telephone number is (703) 308-1235.

Application/Control Number: 09/648,306
Art Unit: 1626

Page 6

Joseph K. McKane
Joseph K. McKane

Supervisory Patent Examiner

Group 1600

Sonya Wright

June 13, 2001